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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2767
Docket No.: 826.1377/RAG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

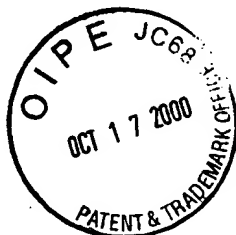
In re the Application of:

Hironobu KITAJIMA et al.

Serial No.: 08/814,409

Filed: March 11, 1997

For: ENCRYPTING/DECRYPTING SYSTEM WITH PROGRAMMABLE LOGIC
DEVICE/UNIT AND METHOD THEREOF



Group Art Unit: 2767

Examiner: D. Meislahn

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Box AF

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 17, 2000, and having a period for response set to expire on October 17, 2000. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** the claims as follows:

1. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) An encrypting apparatus, comprising:
 - a circuit unit, having at least one programmable logic device, to form an encrypting circuit with the programmable logic device corresponding to given encrypting specifications;
 - a [change] mapping data generating unit to [generate automatically] read change data for changing at least one of the encrypting specifications in accordance with predetermined criteria and to generate a mapping data object representing the structure of the encrypting circuit; [and]
 - a changing unit, coupled to said circuit unit and said change data generating unit, [to read the change data and] to change automatically a structure of the encrypting circuit corresponding to the [change] mapping data object by changing a circuit structure of the programmable logic device without removal from said encrypting apparatus; and